United Nations DP/2018/L.3

Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services

Distr.: Limited
2 July 2018

Original: English

Second regular session 2018
4–7 September 2018, New York
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Organizational matters

Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan

Note by the Executive Board secretariat

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Item 1
Organizational matters

Under this item, the Executive Board will adopt the agenda for the second regular session 2018 and agree on the workplan for the session as presented by the Secretary of the Board. The Board may wish to approve the report of its annual session 2018. A draft report was distributed to members of the Board for their comments; the final report reflects the comments received.

In accordance with decision 96/25, a draft workplan for 2019 is being submitted to the Executive Board. The document will be finalized by the secretariat in close consultation with the Bureau of the Board and will be submitted to the Board for adoption at its first regular session 2019.

Documentation:

Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan (DP/2018/L.3)

Report of the annual session 2018 (DP/2018/17)

Decisions adopted at the annual session 2018 (DP/2018/18)

Draft annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2019 (DP/2018/CRP.2)

UNDP segment

Item 2
Structured funding dialogue

Under this item, the Board will have before it the report on the annual review of the financial situation, 2017, and the report on the status of regular funding commitments to UNDP and its funds and programmes for 2018 and onwards.

The report on the annual review of the financial situation undertakes a comprehensive review and analysis, from the financial perspective, of UNDP activities at the global and aggregate levels. The overview assesses the performance of the organization against the various sources for programming: UNDP regular resources, other resources, and UNCDF, and provides the financial position at the end of 2017 with illustrative comparators to the previous year.

The Board will also have before it a report on the status of regular funding commitments for 2018 and onwards, and a summary of contributions to regular and other resources received in 2017 for UNDP, UNCDF, and UNV. This year's report shows continuing support for UNDP as evidenced by a one per cent increase in total resources from 2016, and a four per cent increase in total resources from 2014. However, these increases are accompanied by a decline in regular resources, and a high concentration of highly earmarked other resources. The report also highlights the lack of predictability of regular resources with less than 30 per cent of annual contributions backed by multi-year commitments, and a limited number of core contributors with the top 10 accounting for 86 per cent of total contributions in 2017. The report makes a case for why regular resources are important, and outlines UNDP efforts to explore incentives and mechanisms to broaden the donor base and encourage donors to shift to less restricted other resources aligned to the Strategic Plan.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision, elements of which are contained in the reports.

Documentation:

Annual review of the financial situation, 2017 (DP/2018/19)

Detailed information relating to the annual review of the financial situation 2017 (DP/2018/19/Add.1)

Status of regular resources funding commitments to UNDP and its funds and programmes for 2018 and onwards (DP/2018/20)

Item 3
Gender equality at UNDP

The UNDP gender equality strategy, 2018-2021, is the third such strategy. It articulates the core principles and priorities of UNDP and provides entry points for achieving the gender equality targets across the three development settings of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021. This strategy also identifies priority areas for signature solution 6 of the Strategic Plan, strengthen gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. This strategy reflects the recommendations and the UNDP management response to the 2015 evaluation of UNDP contribution to gender equality and women's empowerment. The strategy is aligned to the requirements of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and to the common chapter of the strategic plans of UNDP, the United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and United Nations Population Fund. The Board may wish to adopt a decision, elements of which are contained in the report.

Documentation:

UNDP gender equality strategy, 2018-2021 (DP/2018/21)

Item 4
Country programmes and related matters

Under this item, the Executive Board will be asked to: (a) take note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Cuba and Mexico from 1 January to 31 December 2019; (b) approve the two-year extension of the country programme for Afghanistan from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2021 and the second one-year extension of the country programme for Liberia from 1 January to 31 December 2019; and (c) review and approve, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for Benin, Equatorial Guinea, Lesotho, Namibia, Senegal, South Sudan; Bhutan, Philippines; and Libya.

Documentation:

Extensions of country programmes (DP/2018/22)

Africa

Country programme document for Benin (DP/DCP/BEN/3)

Country programme document for Equatorial Guinea (DP/DCP/GNQ/3)

Country programme document for Lesotho (DP/DCP/LSO/3)

Country programme document for Namibia (DP/DCP/NAM/3)

Country programme document for Senegal (DP/DCP/SEN/3)

Country programme document for South Sudan (DP/DCP/SSD/3)

Asia and the Pacific

Country programme document for Bhutan (DP/DCP/BTN/2)

Country programme document for the Philippines (DP/DCP/PHL/3)

Arab States

Country programme document for Libya (DP/DCP/LBY/3)

Item 5
Evaluation

The Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has carried out an evaluation of UNDP inter-agency pooled financing services. The evaluation is part of the IEO multi-year evaluation plan (2018-2021), approved by the Executive Board at its first regular session 2018. The objectives of the evaluation were to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of UNDP in providing inter-agency pooled financing services through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office; and to provide findings, conclusions, and recommendations to improve and inform UNDP positioning as a provider of inter-agency pooled financing services. The evaluation assessed the extent to which UNDP management of pooled funds responds to the concerns of its two primary partners - the contributing donors and participating United Nations organizations - and contributes to the policy purposes for which the Multi-Donor Trust Fund/Joint Programme financing instrument was established, in particular: increased donor harmonization; improved United Nations programme coherence; improved inter-agency coordination; and increased incentives for collaboration within the United Nations development system. In addition, the evaluation sought to better understand the donor choice among funding mechanisms, and under what conditions donors do or would prefer the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office administer United Nations pooled funds. The evaluation, and the accompanying management response, are expected to inform how the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office strategically positions itself as a preferred provider of inter-agency pooled financing services in support of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Board will also have before it an evaluation of UNDP inter-agency operational services. The evaluation is part of IEO multi-year evaluation plan (2018-2021), approved by the Board at its first regular session 2018. The objectives of the evaluation were to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of UNDP in providing inter-agency operational services and to provide findings, conclusions, and recommendations to improve and inform UNDP contributions as a provider of inter-agency operational support services. The evaluation covered the period 2010 to 2017, and the scope of the evaluation looked broadly at the operational structures in place and assessed whether UNDP is managing these operational services effectively and efficiently, while meeting the needs and expectations of the United Nations agencies receiving this support at the global, regional and country levels. While the evaluation takes note of the ongoing United Nations development system reform, the team has not tailored its findings, conclusions and recommendations to the envisioned reforms, as they are yet to be finalized. The evaluation, and the accompanying management response, are expected to inform how UNDP strategically positions itself as a preferred provider of inter-agency operational services in support of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Board may wish to adopt a decision on this item.

Documentation:

Evaluation of UNDP inter-agency pooled financing services (DP/2018/23)

Management response to the evaluation of UNDP inter-agency pooled financing services (DP/2018/24)

Evaluation of UNDP inter-agency operational services (DP/2018/25)

Management response to the evaluation of UNDP inter-agency operational services (DP/2018/26)

UNFPA segment

Item 6
UNFPA structured funding dialogue

The Executive Board will hold a structured funding dialogue within the context of the sustainable development goals and the evolving financing landscape. UNFPA will report on its efforts to continue to explore incentives, mechanisms and funding windows to broaden its donor base, improve communications with donors, and continue dialogue on options that will enhance the quality of contributions to finance development results.

In accordance with decisions 99/5 and 2000/9, requesting the Executive Director to provide annually updated estimates of regular and co-financing resources, the report presents the funding commitments of Member States and others to UNFPA and projections for 2018 and future years.

An addendum to the contributions report outlines a proposal to improve the structured funding dialogues, as requested by the Board in decision 2017/25.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on UNFPA funding issues.

Documentation:

Report on contributions by Member States and others to UNFPA and revenue projections for 2018 and future years (DP/FPA/2018/10)

Addendum: UNFPA proposal on structured financing dialogues.

The annexes to the report on contributions are available on the UNFPA website.

Item 7
UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021

The proposed revision of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021 presents the resources that will contribute to the achievement of UNFPA integrated results and resources framework for 2018-2021. The integrated budget should be considered in conjunction with the UNFPA strategic plan, 2018-2021, and its annexes.

UNFPA has presented the integrated budget revision to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, which will issue its own report on the revised budget.

Documentation:

UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021 revision (DP/FPA/2018/8)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021 revision (DP/FPA/2018/9)

The annexes to the revised integrated budget, 2018-2021 are available on the UNFPA website.

Item 8
Country programmes and related matters

The Executive Board will be asked to (a) approve, in accordance with decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for Benin, Bhutan, Burundi, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Lesotho, Libya, Malawi, Namibia, Nicaragua, Philippines, Senegal, South Sudan and Togo; (b) take note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Comoros, the Republic of the Congo and Mexico; and (c) approve the second one-year extension of the country programmes for Democratic Republic of the Congo and Liberia.

Documentation:

Extensions of country programmes (DP/FPA/2018/11)

Country programme documents for:
Benin (DP/FPA/CPD/BEN/8),
Bhutan (DP/FPA/CPD/BTN/7),
Burundi (DP/FPA/CPD/BDI/8),
Ecuador (DP/FPA/CPD/ECU/7),
Equatorial Guinea (DP/FPA/CPD/GNQ/7),
Lesotho (DP/FPA/CPD/LSO/7),
Libya (DP/FPA/CPD/LBY/1),
Malawi (DP/FPA/CPD/MWI/8),
Namibia (DP/FPA/CPD/NAM/6),
Nicaragua (DP/FPA/CPD/NIC/9),
Philippines (DP/FPA/CPD/PHL/8),
Senegal (DP/FPA/CPD/SEN/8),
South Sudan (DP/FPA/CPD/SSD/3),
Togo (DP/FPA/CPD/TGO/7)

UNOPS segment

Item 9
United Nations Office for Project Services

In its resolution 39/220 the General Assembly established the need for recurrent reporting of statistical data on procurement by United Nations agencies on operational activities. As of 2008 and pursuant to Executive Board decision 2007/38, the Executive Director of UNOPS has assumed the responsibility of compiling and submitting the report. The current report presents an analysis of the $18.6 billion of goods and services procured by 40 United Nations organizations in 2017. The Board may wish to take note of the report.

The UNOPS Executive Director will transmit for the consideration of the members of Executive Board her comments on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) entitled "Review of Management and Administration in the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)". The review is one of a series of similar reviews of United Nations system organizations and has been conducted as part of the JIU programme of work for 2017.

Documentation:

Annual statistical report on the procurement activities of United Nations system, 2017 (DP/OPS/2018/5)

UNOPS response to the Joint Inspection Unit review of management and administration in the United Nations Office for Project Services (DP/OPS/2018/6)

Joint segment

Item 10
Follow-up to UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board meeting

The joint UNDP and UNFPA report addresses the implementation of decisions and recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), and focuses on the 40th and 41st meetings of the Programme Coordinating Board, held in June and December 2017, respectively. The report highlights UNDP and UNFPA contributions to the HIV/AIDS response. The Board may wish to take note of the report.

Documentation:

Report on the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (DP/2018/27 – DP/FPA/2018/12)

Item 11
Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

The joint UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women report on cost recovery is prepared in accordance with decisions 2017/11 and 2017/14 of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board, which requested UNDP, together with UNFPA, UN-Women and UNICEF, to continue the consultations with Member States with regard to the cost-recovery policy and to present evidence-based proposals for harmonized cost-recovery policies of UNDP, UNFPA, UN-Women and UNICEF, with adjustments if required, for consideration by the respective Executive Boards no later than their annual sessions in 2018. It is recalled that a draft joint report had been shared with the Executive Board in April 2018. Subsequently, the Executive Board has agreed to postpone the formal consideration of the joint report on cost recovery to the second regular session 2018.

The report of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on joint procurement activities outlines key findings and outcomes from the common procurement work conducted in 2017, and sets out the initiatives under way in 2018. UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS began assessing opportunities for common procurement initiatives in January 2011. The goals were more efficient processes, strengthened procurement practices, and lower costs for all participating agencies. The report now provides details on the diversity and nature of joint procurement across the three agencies, covering a range of products and sectors,

in direct support of projects and programmes. The Board may wish to take note of the present report and comment on the joint procurement activities delivered in 2017, as well as activities in progress in 2018.

Documentation:

Joint report on cost recovery (DP/FPA-ICEF-UNW/2018/1)

Report of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on joint procurement activities (DP-FPA-OPS/2018/1)

Item 12
Working methods of the Boards

In its decisions 2018/5, 2018/10 and 2018/12, the Executive Board encouraged the secretariat of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS to work together with the secretariats of the UNICEF and UN-Women Executive Boards to produce a joint response to the 2018 joint meeting of the Executive Boards segment on working methods by no later than four weeks before the second regular session 2018, allowing for a consultation process among Member States ahead of that session.

Item 13
Field visits

The Executive Board will have before it a report on the joint field visit to Uganda by the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, which took place from 29 April to 3 May 2018, and the report on the Executive Board field visit to Haiti, which took place from 24 to 29 June 2018. The Board may wish to take note of the reports.

Documentation:

Report on the joint field visit of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP to Uganda (DP/FPA/OPS-ICEF-UNW-WFP/2018/CRP.1)

Report on the Executive Board field visit to Haiti (DP/FPA/OPS/2018/CRP.1)

Item 14
Other matters

TENTATIVE WORKPLAN
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS
SECOND REGULAR SESSION 2018
(4 - 7 September 2018, New York)

Day/date	*Time*	*Item*	*Subject*
Tuesday, 4 September	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS • Adoption of the agenda and workplan for the session • Adoption of the report of the annual session 2018 **UNFPA segment** STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
	3 – 5:45 p.m.		STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (cont'd)
		7	UNFPA INTEGRATED BUDGET, 2018-2021 *(D)* • Revision of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021
	5:45 – 6 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions*
Wednesday, 5 September	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		**UNFPA segment (cont'd)**
		6	STRUCTURED FUNDING DIALOGUE *(D)* • Report on contributions by Member States and others to UNFPA and revenue projections for 2018 and future years
			UNDP segment
		2	STRUCTURED FUNDING DIALOGUE *(D)* • Annual review of the financial situation, 2017 • Status of regular funding commitments to UNDP and its funds and programmes for 2018 and onwards
	3 - 4:30 p.m.		**UNOPS segment** STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
		9	• Annual statistical report on the procurement activities of United Nations system organizations, 2017 *(D)* • UNOPS response to the Joint Inspection Unit review of management and administration in the United Nations Office for Project Service
	4:30 – 5:45 p.m.		**UNFPA segment (cont'd)**
		8	UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS • Presentation and approval of country programme documents • Extensions of country programmes
	5:45 – 6 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions*
Thursday, 6 September	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		**UNDP segment (cont'd)** STATEMENT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR
	3 –5:45 p.m.		STATEMENT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR (cont'd)
		3	GENDER EQUALITY AT UNDP *(D)* • UNDP gender equality strategy, 2018-2021

	5:45 – 6 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions*
Friday, 7 September	10 a.m.-1 p.m.	4	UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS • Presentation and approval of country programme documents • Extensions of country programmes
		5	EVALUATION *(D)* • Evaluation of UNDP inter-agency pooled financing services and management response • Evaluation of UNDP inter-agency operational services and management response
			Joint segment
		10	FOLLOW-UP TO UNAIDS PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD MEETING • Joint UNDP/UNFPA report on follow-up to recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of UNAIDS
	3 - 6 p.m.	11	FINANCIAL, BUDGETARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS • Joint report on cost recovery *(D)* • Report of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on joint procurement activities
		12	WORKING METHODS OF THE BOARD *(D)*
		13	FIELD VISITS • Report on the joint field visit to Uganda • Report on the Executive Board field visit to Haiti
		14	OTHER MATTERS • Address by the Chairperson of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS/ UN-Women Staff Council • Adoption of pending decisions
		1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS • Draft annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2019 • Adoption of the tentative workplans for the first regular session 2019